

We Like Platform Austria



AUSTRIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE 17TH INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE EXHIBITION –
LA BIENNALE DI VENEZIA 2021

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PLATFORM AUSTRIA
ON THE PHENOMENON OF PLATFORM URBANISM

MIDISSAGE AT THE AUSTRIAN PAVILION
SATURDAY, 28 AUGUST 2021

From **Friday, 27 August to Sunday, 29 August 2021**, a series of public events will take place in Venice across a number of collaborating national pavilions of the **Biennale Architettura 2021** to mark the midterm of one of the most important cultural events of the year. Austria will be strongly represented within this **Midissage**: Thirty of the architects, artists, and researchers exhibited in the Austrian pavilion this year will meet in Venice on Saturday, 28 August 2021 for a series of panel discussions to present their work, and to jointly address the topic of the Austrian contribution to the Biennale – *platform urbanism*.

This **Midissage of the national pavilions** of the Biennale Architettura was initiated and coordinated by this year's Austrian curators, **Peter Mörtenböck** and **Helge Mooshammer**. It is intended to set an example of international cooperation and, with its diverse programme, demonstrate how the curators of more than 50 national pavilions, who have come together in a **Curators Collective**, envision a future of architecture based on mutual support.

For us, it was important that the many national contributions to this unique Biennale, which is about the future of living together, should be able to enter into dialogue with one another. Especially in this time of confinement and isolation, we wanted to create a forum that brings together curators, experts and visitors to exchange with one another as if on a platform, both in Venice itself, and online.

– Peter Mörtenböck

While our initial idea of a weekly residency programme at the Austrian pavilion in Venice had to be adapted to a virtual setting due to the pandemic, with this Midissage, we now want to provide an opportunity for everyone involved in the project to engage in these conversations in person. The Midissage will create a platform for dialogue for the Austrian contribution as well as for the many other national pavilions, one that can open up new paths in architecture for us.

– Helge Mooshammer

Peter Mörtenböck and Helge Mooshammer invite the general public to the Midissage at the Austrian pavilion on **Saturday, 28 August 2021**. From 11 am to 5 pm, there will be a series of fruitful discussions, where experts from all over the world will present their work, and discuss current architectural challenges with the audience.

A special highlight of the programme will be the panel discussion *Labour in the Platform City* at 4 pm. In this discussion, three key experts in architecture and urbanism will deliberate the phenomenon of *platform urbanism*: **Peggy Deamer** (Yale University and author of *Architecture and Labor*), **Sandro Mezzadra** (University of Bologna and co-author of *The Politics of Operations: Excavating Contemporary Capitalism*) and **Saskia Sassen** (Columbia University and author of *Expulsions: Brutality and Complexity in the Global Economy*).

Other participants in the panel discussions will include: Tom Avermaete, Orit and Tal Halpern, Tiziana Terranova, Peter Lang, Leo Hollis, Daniel Cardoso Llach, Owen Hatherley, Jochen Becker, Bernadette Krejs, Mona Mahall & Asli Serbest, Benj Gerdes, Ofri Cnaani, Irit Rogoff, Hae-Won Shin, Rafał Śliwa, Lucia Babina, Gerald Nestler & Sylvia Eckermann, as well as the collectives: The FairWork Project, Into the Black Box and Slutty Urbanism.

The invited experts are part of the blogger network initiated by Peter Mörtenböck and Helge Mooshammer. From September 2020 to March 2021, hundreds of blog posts on *platform urbanism* were written, which can be read online at www.platform-austria.org, and experienced as a multimedia installation in the Austrian pavilion.

Transnational Midissage organised by the *Curators Collective*

The Midissage events in the Austrian pavilion are embedded in a comprehensive programme orchestrated by the *Curators Collective* (CC), which enables an exchange between the various national pavilions. For the first time in the history of the Biennale di Venezia, the curators of the various country pavilions have come together in a transnational network – the *Curators Collective*.

On 28 August 2021, 2 pm, **Irit Rogoff** (Goldsmiths, University of London and co-founder of the freethought collective), **Hae-Won Shin** (curator of the Korean pavilion) and **Rafał Śliwa** (member of PROLOG, the curatorial team of the Polish pavilion) will engage in a discussion titled *Curatorial Platforms: Networked Practices of Curating* at the Austrian pavilion.

A detailed programme of the Biennale Midissage taking place from 27 to 29 August 2021 is available for download in our press area at <http://presse.artphalanx.at/en/architecture-biennale-2021/>.

Updates to the programme can be found on the *Curators Collective* website: www.curatorscollective.org and on the Biennale di Venezia website: www.labiennale.org.

It remains a priority for the two curators to provide as many different ways as possible of engaging with our chosen theme. Apart from the presentation as well as events in Venice, these include a comprehensive online presence comprising blog contributions, videos and discussions (website), participative formats (social media and image bank) and a satellite exhibition in Vienna (MAK FORUM):

PLATFORM AUSTRIA SATELLITE IN VIENNA

Peter Mörtenböck and Helge Mooshammer organised an accompanying exhibition in the MAK FORUM (Museum of Applied Arts) in Vienna. Using video installations and an interactive online platform, a dialogue will be established with the Austrian pavilion in Venice and the shared theme of *platform urbanism* will be subjected to a critical analysis. The exhibition can be viewed during the Vienna Biennale until 29 August 2021.

→ www.mak.at

PLATFORM AUSTRIA ONLINE

PLATFORM AUSTRIA offers different online formats which facilitate location-independent access and dialogue for all those interested in this topic:

WEBSITE

Along with current statements, information and video recordings, the website collects all contributions made by the bloggers, creating a comprehensive archive on the theme of *platform urbanism*.

→ www.platform-austria.org

“WE LIKE” IMAGE BANK

The *WE LIKE* image bank provides the public with an opportunity to upload photographs of architecture *that we would like to see more in the future*. The image bank will be made public in the pavilion and via www.platform-austria.org.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The bloggers are being introduced and excerpts from their contributions are made available on Facebook and Instagram. Visitors are invited to contribute comments, postings, etc.

The programme will regularly be updated at www.platform-austria.org.

Team

Commissioner:	Republic of Austria, Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport
Curators:	Peter Mörtenböck and Helge Mooshammer Centre for Global Architecture www.global-architecture.org
Curatorial assistance:	Carmen Lael Hines Centre for Global Architecture
Research assistance:	Christian Frieß, Pieter de Cuyper, Lovro Končar-Gamulin, Julius Bartz, Ruth Köchl, Centre for Global Architecture
Exhibition design Spatial concept:	Peter Mörtenböck and Helge Mooshammer
Design wooden elements:	mostlikely sudden workshop www.mostlikely.at
Design installation:	Pretterhofer Arquitectos www.prearq.at
Visual communication:	Christof Nardin, Bueronardin www.bueronardin.com
Online platform programming:	Philipp Daun www.philippdaun.net
Video production:	RAUM.FILM www.raumfilm.at
Production management:	Katharina Boesch, Viktoria Pontoni section.a, www.sectiona.at
Press:	Susanne Haider, Catharina Cramer art:phalanx, www.artphalanx.at
Fiscal project management:	Georg Geyer Kanzlei Geyer & Geyer

On behalf of

Press contact

Susanne Haider, Catharina Cramer
art:phalanx – Culture & Urbanity
E: architekturbiennale@artphalanx.at
PH: +43 (0)1 524 98 03 – 11

PRESS MATERIAL

<http://presse.artphalanx.at/en/architecture-biennale-2021/>

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.instagram.com/austrianpavilion
www.facebook.com/AustriaAtVeniceBiennale
#platformaustria #austrianpavilion
#österreichpavillon

BIENNALE ARCHITETTURA 2021

17th International Architecture Exhibition
Exhibition Duration: 22 May–21 November 2021

How will we live together?

Curator: Hashim Sarkis

→ www.labiennale.org

Curators Collective

→ curatorscollective.org

Current information on COVID-19 regulations during the Biennale Architettura can be found here: www.platform-austria.org/en/info/visit

With the support of



Many thanks to our partners of the Biennale Architettura 2021



Many thanks to our co-operating partners in the opening events



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